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EXAMINER				
WANG, JIN CHENG				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/669,593

Applicant(s)

SHIOTA ET AL.

Examiner

JIN-CHENG WANG

Art Unit

2628

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 August 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 16-22, 24 and 25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 16-22, 24 and 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB-08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Applicant's submission filed on 8/1/2008 has been entered. Claims 1-10, 11-22, and 24 have been amended. Claims 11-15 and 23 have been canceled. The claims 1-10, 16-22 and 24-25 are pending in the application.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed August 1, 2008 have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection of the base claim 1 based on Kahn et al. US 2004/0004663 A1 and Asami U.S. Patent No. 6,882,350 and DeLorme set forth in the present Office Action.

Applicant argues in essence with respect to the claim 1 and similar claims that Kahn and Asami do not disclose the claimed additional information. Applicant's arguments are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Moreover, the Kahn, Asami and DeLorme combination teaches all claim limitations set forth in the claim 1.

As addressed below, Kahn teaches a method for generating an album based on album data including at least one image data set, which has been photographed during a trip and which has location data representing a photography location attached thereto, comprising the steps of:

Loading the image data into a personal computer (*See Paragraph 0044-0045 wherein the image data is taken by the digital camera 100 and is loaded to the local host device such as*

cell phone, personal digital assistant, computer or the like and the personal digital assistant or the computer meets the claim limitation of “a personal computer”;

Forwarding image data from a user terminal of said personal computer to a generation support server (e.g., *Kahn teaches forwarding/uploading user's photos from the local host device to the image management server of Fig. 4; see Paragraph 0089 and 0097-0098*), a user at the user terminal being identified by a user ID (user's GPS location, location ID in paragraph 0094 and 0097 and user's identity ID of paragraph 0098), where a predetermined reference position corresponds to said user ID (e.g., *Paragraph 0051 wherein the location information of where the user is currently located, the most recently captured images for organizing a plurality of photos. The location information may also be a centroid of a given geographic location of interest of Kahn meets the claim limitation of “a predetermined reference position” wherein the centroid is associated with the user's location ID and/or the user's ID; see paragraph 0093*); and,

The generation support server performing the steps of:

Calculating said distance between the photography location of the image data set and a predetermined reference position, based on the location data (e.g., *Kahn teaches calculating the distance by determining whether the user's GPS location lies within a given geographic location of interest to determine the distance between the user's GPS location and the centroid for a given geographic location as performed within an SQL stored procedure; see Paragraph 0093*);

Judging whether the distance is over a predetermined threshold value (e.g., *the radius of a given geographic location as taught in Kahn meets the claim limitation of “a predetermined threshold value”*; see *Paragraph 0093-0094*; a list of fulfillers within a given distance as

retrieved from the database in the image manager are returned to the local applet and displayed to the user as sorted by least distance to the user; see Paragraph 0098-0100);

Classifying the image data set as one of a vacation album or specific theme album according to the result of judgment (*Fig. 5F shows the image data set as a vacation album or specific theme album such as Friends album or Spring Time album or "Venice Italy" album. The "albums" based on location of Paragraph 0098-0100*);

Obtaining from a storage device additional data associated with the classification made for the image data set (*See Paragraph 0098 the location ID information and metadata comprising the latitude and longitude positions are stored as a database record in a database table as well as timestamp, user ID are stored in the database. A portion of the data constitute the additional information; see Paragraph 0100 the image manager compares the location ID against a database of fulfillers and a list of fulfillers within a given distance is returned to the local applet which displays the list to the user*); and

Generating the album data according to the result of classification and the image data set and the additional data (*"albums" based on location of Paragraph 0089 and Paragraph 98-0100; see Paragraph 0100 the image manager compares the location ID against a database of fulfillers and a list of fulfillers within a given distance is returned to the local applet which displays the list to the user*), the additional data including third party images, spot data that provides descriptions of areas of interest associated with the photography location (Kahn discloses in Paragraph 0098 that the metadata for the images include such fields as the user ID, timestamp and location ID that may be assigned a descriptive title that includes information indicating geographic location such as "Venice, Italy". The images include the images associated

with a particular user ID as well as thirty-party user ID. The location ID includes the longitude and latitude decimal values that may be assigned a descriptive title that includes information indicating geographic location such as "Venice, Italy", meeting the claimed spot data that provides description of areas of interest associated with the photography location).

Kahn is silent to the claim limitation of displaying together, on a display screen, both map data indicating a travel route and thumbnail images in a chronological order. Kahn is silent to the additional data including audio data associated with the photography location.

However, Asami discloses in Figs. 10-12 and 15-19 displaying together on a display screen both map data indicating a travel route and thumbnail images in a chronological order (See also Asami column 20, lines 34-62, e.g., the map data indicating the sightseeing course of the tour or the map data indicating the route connecting the thumbnail icons of photos).

Although Kahn discloses the claim limitation of obtaining, from a storage device, additional data associated with the classification made for the image data set; and generating the album data according to the result of classification and the image data set and the additional data, Kahn does not explicitly disclose the claim limitation of "a map database" within the claim limitation of obtaining, from a storage device and a map database, additional data associated with the classification made for the image data set; and generating the album data according to the result of classification and the image data set and the additional data. However, Kahn discloses a database which stores geographic locations and/or the latitude and longitude information about the photos taken at the geographic locations (See Paragraph 0098) and therefore Kahn implicitly teaches a map database storing geographic locations and/or the latitude and longitude information about the photos taken at the geographic locations. Therefore, Kahn implicitly

teaches the claim limitation of obtaining, from a storage device and a map database, additional data associated with the classification made for the image data set; and generating the album data according to the result of classification and the image data set and the additional data.

However, Asami further teaches the claim limitation of obtaining, from a storage device (e.g., the image position information and image pickup time database) and a map database (e.g., the map database 113 of Fig. 9), additional data associated with the classification made for the image data set (e.g., the additional information being the position information and time information; see Fig. 9; see also column 24, lines 40-67); and generating the album data according to the result of classification and the image data set and the additional data (e.g., *column 24, lines 40-67 generating the album data relating to a selected route according to the result of classification based on the image data on a specific route line and a collection of photo icons are displayed on as specific route line as controlled by the control movement of the map; thumbnail icons are read from memory storage and displayed at any time; changing a route line by the control movement changes the corresponding image thumbnail icons being displayed and thus the image data set is classified according to a specific route line---or specific theme album on the specific route line; see column 25, lines 1-10; see also column 25, lines 55-67*).

Moreover, Asami also discloses the other claim limitations set forth in the claim 1. For example, Asami discloses the claim limitation of judging whether the distance is over a predetermined threshold value (the thumbnail icon is positioned based on the longitude and latitude information and is obtained by matching the position information and thus Asami implicitly teaches a match distance between the position coordinates of the travel route line and the position coordinates of the photo icons. Asami implicitly discloses that a match distance

between the image pickup time and the pickup time of the photos. Moreover, the thumbnail icons are obtained based on the judgment that the coordinates of the photos are in match with the coordinates of the travel route line and a predetermined number of photo icons possessing the pickup time data are extracted; see column 22, lines 5-35) and classifying the image data set as one of a vacation album or specific theme album according to the result of judgment (e.g., at column 24, lines 40-67 *Asami teaches generating the album data relating to a selected route according to the result of classification based on the image data on a specific route line and a collection of photo icons are displayed on as specific route line as controlled by the control movement of the map; thumbnail icons are read from memory storage and displayed at any time; changing a route line by the control movement changes the corresponding image thumbnail icons being displayed and thus the image data set is classified according to a specific route line--or specific theme album on the specific route line; see column 25, lines 1-10*), the additional data including third party images, spot data that provides descriptions of areas of interest associated with the photography location (*Asami discloses in Figs. 16-19 and column 26, lines 43-50 associating the thumbnail icons with the spot data---text comment--- that provides descriptions of areas of interest associated with the photography location. Asami discloses in column 19, lines 5-20 that a thumbnail ID is delivered to make the icon a thumbnail icon and if a user ID is delivered newly, then a message representing delivery of a user ID such as "A user ID is delivered" may be presented to the user". In the same manner as Kahn, Asami discloses the user ID and the thumbnail ID are associated with the images. Asami thus teaches the thumbnail icons are not limited to a particular user, i.e., the thumbnail icons are associated with the images*

by a particular user as well as the third party user. Therefore, Asami teaches the thirty party images).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated Asami into Kahn's method and apparatus for generating an album because Kahn's photos are location dependent in a trip and are ordered in chronological order in a trip and Kahn's photos thus can be displayed according to the teaching of Asami (Figs. 15-19 and 10-12 of Asami) as Asami's photos are also locations dependent and are ordered chronologically for a trip.

One of the ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate Asami to display the photo icons along the travel route (See also Asami column 20, lines 34-62, e.g., the map data indicating the sightseeing course of the tour or the map data indicating the route connecting the thumbnail icons of photos; See also Asami Figs. 10-12 and 15-19).

Although Asami and Kahn do not explicitly teach that the additional data includes the audio data associated with the photography location, DeLorme et al. teach the claim limitation. For example, in column 10, lines 50-64 and column 13, lines 30-55, DeLorme teaches the POI on a travel route provides overlays of the CARPS database for display over the electronic maps on the computer display. The database includes the travel information selected from the group consisting of (third party) graphics, photos, videos, animations, audio information and text information about transportation routes and waypoints of the electronic maps and points of interest of the CARPS database. DeLorme discloses the POIs or geographical sites or locations for which multimedia information (third party images) are available in the CARPS database and

POIs can be represented in both digital and print media cartography described by standard geographic coordinates such as latitude and longitude. DeLorme discloses at column 14, lines 15-35 that the multimedia presentation includes video pictures of the lake, local events, attractions and recreational opportunities, related text or audio narrative, etc.

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated DeLorme into Asami and Kahn's method and apparatus for generating an album wherein a particular point of interest on the travel route on a map can be arranged with the additional data including the audio data of DeLorme such that the additional data may be displayed upon the user's selection (DeLorme column 14, lines 15-35).

One of the ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate DeLorme to display the multimedia data including the audio data along with the photos on a particular point of interest along the travel route (See also Asami column 20, lines 34-62, e.g., the map data indicating the sightseeing course of the tour or the map data indicating the route connecting the thumbnail icons of photos; See also Asami Figs. 10-12 and 15-19, DeLorme column 13-14) such that the user's interaction with the multi-media about a particular geographic location is available upon request (column 14, lines 50-67).

Re claims 3-5, 8-10, 13-15, 18-20, Kahn teaches in Paragraph 0098-0100 of obtaining related data, which is related to the photography location of the at least one image data set for which the distance is over the predetermined threshold value, based on the location data attached thereto, from a related data storage means which stores a plurality of related data sets and generating album data which includes the related data (*See Paragraph 0098 the location ID*

information and metadata comprising the latitude and longitude positions are stored as a database record in a database table as well as timestamp, user ID are stored in the database. A portion of the data constitute the additional information; see Paragraph 0100 the image manager compares the location ID against a database of fulfillers and a list of fulfillers within a given distance is returned to the local applet which displays the list to the user).

Re Claims 21-24: Kahn further discloses that the predetermined reference position is registered as user data (See Paragraph 0098 the location ID information and metadata comprising the latitude and longitude positions are stored as a database record in a database table as well as timestamp, user ID are stored in the database. A portion of the data constitutes the additional information; see Paragraph 0100 the image manager compares the location ID against a database of fulfillers and a list of fulfillers within a given distance is returned to the local applet which displays the list to the user).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 16-20 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 16 recites “A computer readable medium”. The claimed computer readable medium is not limited to the tangible embodiment, but includes an intangible embodiment such as transmission means or internet downloads (see Page 48 of applicant’s originally filed specification). A data structure in an internet download or

transmission medium or signal has been included in the embodiment. It is thus not clear whether an apparatus claim or a process claim is claimed in the claim 16. Moreover, the body of the claim 16 recites process steps while an apparatus is recited in the preamble. Clarification is required. The claims 17-20 and 24 depend upon the claim 16 and are subject to the same rationale of rejection set forth in the claim 16.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 16-20 and 24:

Claim 16 recites “A computer readable medium”. The claimed computer readable medium is not limited to the tangible embodiment, but includes an intangible embodiment such as transmission means or internet downloads (See Page 48 of applicant’s specification). A data structure in an internet download or transmission medium or signal has been included in the embodiment. Therefore, the claim 16 is non-statutory.

The claims 17-20 and 24 are subject to the same rationale of rejection set forth in the claim 18.

Computer-Related Nonstatutory Subject Matter

Descriptive material can be characterized as either “functional descriptive material” or “nonfunctional descriptive material.” In this context, “functional descriptive material” consists of data structures and computer programs which impart functionality when employed as a computer component. (The definition of “data structure” is “a physical or logical relationship among data elements, designed to support specific data manipulation functions.” The New IEEE Standard Dictionary of Electrical and Electronics Terms 308 (5th ed. 1993).) “Nonfunctional descriptive material” includes but is not limited to music, literary works and a compilation or mere arrangement of data.

Both types of “descriptive material” are nonstatutory when claimed as descriptive material per se. Warmerdam, 33 F.3d at 1360, 31 USPQ2d at 1759. See Warmerdam, 33 F.3d at 1361, 31 USPQ2d at 1760 (claim to a data structure per se held nonstatutory).

When nonfunctional descriptive material is recorded on some computer-readable medium, in a computer or on an electromagnetic carrier signal, it is not statutory since no requisite functionality is present to satisfy the practical application requirement. Merely claiming nonfunctional descriptive material, i.e., abstract ideas, stored in a computer-readable medium, in a computer, on an electromagnetic carrier signal does not make it statutory. See Diehr, 450 U.S. at 185-86, 209 USPQ at 8 (noting that the claims for an algorithm in Benson were unpatentable as abstract ideas because “[t]he sole practical application of the algorithm was in connection with the programming of a general purpose computer.”). Such a result would exalt form over substance. In re Sarkar, 588 F.2d 1330, 1333, 200 USPQ 132, 137 (CCPA 1978) (“[E]ach invention must be evaluated as claimed; yet semantogenic considerations preclude a determination based solely on words appearing in the claims. In the final analysis under § 101,

the claimed invention, as a whole, must be evaluated for what it is.”) (quoted with approval in Abele, 684 F.2d at 907, 214 USPQ at 687). See also In re Johnson, 589 F.2d 1070, 1077, 200 USPQ 199, 206 (CCPA 1978) (“form of the claim is often an exercise in drafting”). Thus, nonstatutory music is not a computer component and it does not become statutory by merely recording it on a compact disk. Protection for this type of work is provided under the copyright law.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-10, 16-22 and 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kahn et al. US 2004/0004663 A1 (hereinafter Kahn) in view of Asami U.S. Patent No. 6,882,350 (hereinafter Asami) and DeLorme et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,802,492 (hereinafter DeLorme).

Re Claims 1, 6, 16 and 25:

Kahn teaches a method for generating an album based on album data including at least one image data set, which has been photographed during a trip and which has location data representing a photography location attached thereto, comprising the steps of:

Loading the image data into a personal computer (*See Paragraph 0044-0045 wherein the image data is taken by the digital camera 100 and is loaded to the local host device such as cell phone, personal digital assistant, computer or the like and the personal digital assistant or the computer meets the claim limitation of "a personal computer"*);

Forwarding image data from a user terminal of said personal computer to a generation support server (*e.g., Kahn teaches forwarding/uploading user's photos from the local host device to the image management server of Fig. 4; see Paragraph 0089 and 0097-0098*), a user at the user terminal being identified by a user ID (*user's GPS location, location ID in paragraph 0094 and 0097 and user's identity ID of paragraph 0098*), where a predetermined reference position corresponds to said user ID (*e.g., Paragraph 0051 wherein the location information of where the user is currently located, the most recently captured images for organizing a plurality of photos. The location information may also be a centroid of a given geographic location of interest of Kahn meets the claim limitation of "a predetermined reference position" wherein the centroid is associated with the user's location ID and/or the user's ID; see paragraph 0093*); and,

The generation support server performing the steps of:

Calculating said distance between the photography location of the image data set and a predetermined reference position, based on the location data (*e.g., Kahn teaches calculating the distance by determining whether the user's GPS location lies within a given geographic location of interest to determine the distance between the user's GPS location and the*

centroid for a given geographic location as performed within an SQL stored procedure; see Paragraph 0093);

Judging whether the distance is over a predetermined threshold value (*e.g., the radius of a given geographic location as taught in Kahn meets the claim limitation of “a predetermined threshold value”*; see Paragraph 0093-0094; a list of fulfillers within a given distance as retrieved from the database in the image manager are returned to the local applet and displayed to the user as sorted by least distance to the user; see Paragraph 0098-0100);

Classifying the image data set as one of a vacation album or specific theme album according to the result of judgment (*Fig. 5F shows the image data set as a vacation album or specific theme album such as Friends album or Spring Time album or “Venice Italy” album. The “albums” based on location of Paragraph 0098-0100*);

Obtaining from a storage device additional data associated with the classification made for the image data set (*See Paragraph 0098 the location ID information and metadata comprising the latitude and longitude positions are stored as a database record in a database table as well as timestamp, user ID are stored in the database. A portion of the data constitute the additional information; see Paragraph 0100 the image manager compares the location ID against a database of fulfillers and a list of fulfillers within a given distance is returned to the local applet which displays the list to the user*); and

Generating the album data according to the result of classification and the image data set and the additional data (*“albums” based on location of Paragraph 0089 and Paragraph 98-0100; see Paragraph 0100 the image manager compares the location ID against a database of fulfillers and a list of fulfillers within a given distance is returned to the local applet which*

displays the list to the user), the additional data including third party images, spot data that provides descriptions of areas of interest associated with the photography location (Kahn discloses in Paragraph 0098 that the metadata for the images include such fields as the user ID, timestamp and location ID that may be assigned a descriptive title that includes information indicating geographic location such as "Venice, Italy". The images include the images associated with a particular user ID as well as thirty-party user ID. The location ID includes the longitude and latitude decimal values that may be assigned a descriptive title that includes information indicating geographic location such as "Venice, Italy", meeting the claimed spot data that provides description of areas of interest associated with the photography location).

Kahn is silent to the claim limitation of displaying together, on a display screen, both map data indicating a travel route and thumbnail images in a chronological order. Kahn is silent to the additional data including audio data associated with the photography location.

However, Asami discloses in Figs. 10-12 and 15-19 displaying together on a display screen both map data indicating a travel route and thumbnail images in a chronological order (See also Asami column 20, lines 34-62, e.g., the map data indicating the sightseeing course of the tour or the map data indicating the route connecting the thumbnail icons of photos).

Although Kahn discloses the claim limitation of obtaining, from a storage device, additional data associated with the classification made for the image data set; and generating the album data according to the result of classification and the image data set and the additional data, Kahn does not explicitly disclose the claim limitation of "a map database" within the claim limitation of obtaining, from a storage device and a map database, additional data associated with the classification made for the image data set; and generating the album data according to the

result of classification and the image data set and the additional data. However, Kahn discloses a database which stores geographic locations and/or the latitude and longitude information about the photos taken at the geographic locations (See Paragraph 0098) and therefore Kahn implicitly teaches a map database storing geographic locations and/or the latitude and longitude information about the photos taken at the geographic locations. Therefore, Kahn implicitly teaches the claim limitation of obtaining, from a storage device and a map database, additional data associated with the classification made for the image data set; and generating the album data according to the result of classification and the image data set and the additional data.

However, Asami further teaches the claim limitation of obtaining, from a storage device (e.g., the image position information and image pickup time database) and a map database (e.g., the map database 113 of Fig. 9), additional data associated with the classification made for the image data set (e.g., the additional information being the position information and time information; see Fig. 9; see also column 24, lines 40-67); and generating the album data according to the result of classification and the image data set and the additional data (e.g., *column 24, lines 40-67 generating the album data relating to a selected route according to the result of classification based on the image data on a specific route line and a collection of photo icons are displayed on as specific route line as controlled by the control movement of the map; thumbnail icons are read from memory storage and displayed at any time; changing a route line by the control movement changes the corresponding image thumbnail icons being displayed and thus the image data set is classified according to a specific route line---or specific theme album on the specific route line; see column 25, lines 1-10; see also column 25, lines 55-67).*

Moreover, Asami also discloses the other claim limitations set forth in the claim 1. For example, Asami discloses the claim limitation of judging whether the distance is over a predetermined threshold value (the thumbnail icon is positioned based on the longitude and latitude information and is obtained by matching the position information and thus Asami implicitly teaches a match distance between the position coordinates of the travel route line and the position coordinates of the photo icons. Asami implicitly discloses that a match distance between the image pickup time and the pickup time of the photos. Moreover, the thumbnail icons are obtained based on the judgment that the coordinates of the photos are in match with the coordinates of the travel route line and a predetermined number of photo icons possessing the pickup time data are extracted; see column 22, lines 5-35) and classifying the image data set as one of a vacation album or specific theme album according to the result of judgment (*e.g., at column 24, lines 40-67 Asami teaches generating the album data relating to a selected route according to the result of classification based on the image data on a specific route line and a collection of photo icons are displayed on as specific route line as controlled by the control movement of the map; thumbnail icons are read from memory storage and displayed at any time; changing a route line by the control movement changes the corresponding image thumbnail icons being displayed and thus the image data set is classified according to a specific route line--or specific theme album on the specific route line; see column 25, lines 1-10*), the additional data including third party images, spot data that provides descriptions of areas of interest associated with the photography location (*Asami discloses in Figs. 16-19 and column 26, lines 43-50 associating the thumbnail icons with the spot data---text comment--- that provides descriptions of areas of interest associated with the photography location. Asami discloses in*

column 19, lines 5-20 that a thumbnail ID is delivered to make the icon a thumbnail icon and if a user ID is delivered newly, then a message representing delivery of a user ID such as "A user ID is delivered" may be presented to the user". In the same manner as Kahn, Asami discloses the user ID and the thumbnail ID are associated with the images. Asami thus teaches the thumbnail icons are not limited to a particular user, i.e., the thumbnail icons are associated with the images by a particular user as well as the third party user. Therefore, Asami teaches the thirty party images).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated Asami into Kahn's method and apparatus for generating an album because Kahn's photos are location dependent in a trip and are ordered in chronological order in a trip and Kahn's photos thus can be displayed according to the teaching of Asami (Figs. 15-19 and 10-12 of Asami) as Asami's photos are also locations dependent and are ordered chronologically for a trip.

One of the ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate Asami to display the photo icons along the travel route (See also Asami column 20, lines 34-62, e.g., the map data indicating the sightseeing course of the tour or the map data indicating the route connecting the thumbnail icons of photos; See also Asami Figs. 10-12 and 15-19).

Although Asami and Kahn do not explicitly teach that the additional data includes the audio data associated with the photography location, DeLorme et al. teach the claim limitation. For example, in column 10, lines 50-64 and column 13, lines 30-55, DeLorme teaches the POI on a travel route provides overlays of the CARPS database for display over the electronic maps

on the computer display. The database includes the travel information selected from the group consisting of (third party) graphics, photos, videos, animations, audio information and text information about transportation routes and waypoints of the electronic maps and points of interest of the CARPS database. DeLorme discloses the POIs or geographical sites or locations for which multimedia information (third party images) are available in the CARPS database and POIs can be represented in both digital and print media cartography described by standard geographic coordinates such as latitude and longitude. DeLorme discloses at column 14, lines 15-35 that the multimedia presentation includes video pictures of the lake, local events, attractions and recreational opportunities, related text or audio narrative, etc.

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated DeLorme into Asami and Kahn's method and apparatus for generating an album wherein a particular point of interest on the travel route on a map can be arranged with the additional data including the audio data of DeLorme such that the additional data may be displayed upon the user's selection (DeLorme column 14, lines 15-35).

One of the ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate DeLorme to display the multimedia data including the audio data along with the photos on a particular point of interest along the travel route (See also Asami column 20, lines 34-62, e.g., the map data indicating the sightseeing course of the tour or the map data indicating the route connecting the thumbnail icons of photos; See also Asami Figs. 10-12 and 15-19, DeLorme column 13-14) such that the user's interaction with the multi-media about a particular geographic location is available upon request (column 14, lines 50-67).

Re claims 3-5, 8-10, 18-20, Kahn teaches in Paragraph 0098-0100 of obtaining related data, which is related to the photography location of the at least one image data set for which the distance is over the predetermined threshold value, based on the location data attached thereto, from a related data storage means which stores a plurality of related data sets and generating album data which includes the related data (*See Paragraph 0098 the location ID information and metadata comprising the latitude and longitude positions are stored as a database record in a database table as well as timestamp, user ID are stored in the database. A portion of the data constitute the additional information; see Paragraph 0100 the image manager compares the location ID against a database of fulfillers and a list of fulfillers within a given distance is returned to the local applet which displays the list to the user*).

Re Claims 21-22 and 24; Kahn further discloses that the predetermined reference position is registered as user data (*See Paragraph 0098 the location ID information and metadata comprising the latitude and longitude positions are stored as a database record in a database table as well as timestamp, user ID are stored in the database. A portion of the data constitutes the additional information; see Paragraph 0100 the image manager compares the location ID against a database of fulfillers and a list of fulfillers within a given distance is returned to the local applet which displays the list to the user*).

Re claims 2, 7 and 17, Kahn and Asami further teach the claim limitation of generating travel route data, which represents a route taken during the trip (*e.g., at Asami column 24, lines 40-67 Asami teaches generating the album data relating to a selected route according to the result of classification based on the image data on a specific route line and a collection of photo*

icons are displayed on as specific route line as controlled by the control movement of the map; thumbnail icons are read from memory storage and displayed at any time; changing a route line by the control movement changes the corresponding image thumbnail icons being displayed and thus the image data set is classified according to a specific route line--or specific theme album on the specific route line; see column 25, lines 1-10; see also column 25, lines 55-67), based on the location data attached to the at least one image data set for which the distance is over the predetermined threshold value (e.g., at column 24, lines 40-67 Asami teaches generating the album data relating to a selected route according to the result of classification based on the image data on a specific route line and a collection of photo icons are displayed on as specific route line as controlled by the control movement of the map; thumbnail icons are read from memory storage and displayed at any time; changing a route line by the control movement changes the corresponding image thumbnail icons being displayed and thus the image data set is classified according to a specific route line--or specific theme album on the specific route line and the image data are matched and searched so as to obtain the relevant photo icons for displaying along the travel route wherein the searching process requires the distance between the coordinates of the route and the coordinates of the photos be calculated and compared and the photos satisfying the distance criteria are obtained and displayed; see column 25, lines 1-10); obtaining a map data set that contains the route from a map database which stores a plurality of map data sets (Kahn discloses a database which stores geographic locations and/or the latitude and longitude information about the photos taken at the geographic locations (See Kahn Paragraph 0098 wherein the geographic locations constitutes a map data set that forms a route for the photos taken during a trip) and therefore Kahn implicitly teaches a map database storing

geographic locations and/or the latitude and longitude information about the photos taken at the geographic locations. Therefore, Kahn implicitly teaches the claim limitation of obtaining, from a storage device and a map database, additional data associated with the classification made for the image data set; and generating the album data according to the result of classification and the image data set and the additional data), based on the travel route data; generating photography data which represents that the image data set was obtained at the photography location along the route (See Kahn Paragraph 0098 wherein the geographic locations constitutes a map data set that forms a route for the photos taken during a trip), attaching the photography data to the map data set and generating album data including the map data set in which the photography data is correlated with the image data set (See Kahn Paragraph 0098 the location ID information and metadata comprising the latitude and longitude positions are stored as a database record in a database table as well as timestamp, user ID are stored in the database. A portion of the data constitute the additional information; see Kahn Paragraph 0100 the image manager compares the location ID against a database of fulfillers and a list of fulfillers within a given distance is returned to the local applet which displays the list to the user).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated Asami into Kahn's method and apparatus for generating an album because Kahn's photos are location dependent in a trip and are ordered in chronological order in a trip and Kahn's photos thus can be displayed according to the teaching of Asami (Figs. 15-19 and 10-12 of Asami) as Asami's photos are also locations dependent and are ordered chronologically for a trip.

One of the ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate Asami to display the photo icons along the travel route (See also Asami column 20, lines 34-62, e.g., the map data indicating the sightseeing course of the tour or the map data indicating the route connecting the thumbnail icons of photos; See also Asami Figs. 10-12 and 15-19).

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jin-Cheng Wang whose telephone number is (571) 272-7665. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 - 6:30 (Mon-Thu).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kee Tung can be reached on (571) 272-7794. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Jin-Cheng Wang/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2628